

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A medical aspiration system, comprising:

2 a pump; and,

3 a non-linear flow restrictor coupled to said pump.

1 2. The system of claim 1, wherein said non-linear
2 flow restrictor changes a direction of fluid flow.

3 3. The system of claim 1, wherein said pump is a
2 peristaltic device.

4 4. The system of claim 1, wherein said pump is a
2 venturi device.

1 5. The system of claim 1, wherein said non-linear
2 flow restrictor includes a tube that has a plurality of
3 bends.

1 6. A medical cutting system, comprising:

2 a handpiece;
3 a cutting element attached to said handpiece;
4 a pump coupled to said handpiece; and,
5 a non-linear flow restrictor coupled to said pump and
6 said handpiece.

1 7. The system of claim 6, wherein said non-linear
2 flow restrictor changes a direction of fluid flow.

1 8. The system of claim 6, wherein said pump is a
2 peristaltic device.

1 9. The system of claim 6, wherein said pump is a
2 venturi device.

1 10. The system of claim 6, wherein said non-linear
2 flow restrictor includes a tube that has a plurality of
3 bends.

1 11. A medical aspiration system, comprising:
2 pump means for creating a flow of fluid that has a
3 pressure and a flowrate; and,

4 flow restrictor means for creating a non-linear
5 relationship between variations in the pressure and the
6 flowrate of the fluid.

1 12. The system of claim 11, wherein said flow
2 restrictor means changes a direction of fluid flow.

1 13. The system of claim 11, wherein said pump means
2 includes a peristaltic device.

1 14. The system of claim 11, wherein said pump means
2 includes a venturi device.

1 15. The system of claim 11, wherein said flow
2 restrictor means includes a tube that has a plurality of
3 bends.

1 16. A medical cutting system, comprising:
2 a handpiece;
3 a cutting element attached to said handpiece;
4 pump means for creating a flow of fluid that has a
5 pressure and a flowrate; and,

6 flow restrictor means for creating a non-linear
7 relationship between variations in the pressure and the
8 flowrate of the fluid.

1 17. The system of claim 16, wherein said non-linear
2 flow restrictor means changes a direction of fluid flow.

1 18. The system of claim 16, wherein said pump is a
2 peristaltic device.

1 19. The system of claim 16, wherein said pump is a
2 venturi device.

1 20. The system of claim 16, wherein said non-linear
2 flow restrictor includes a tube that has a plurality of
3 bends.

1 21. A method for aspirating fluid in a medical system,
2 comprising:
3 creating a flow of fluid that has a pressure and a
4 flowrate; and,

5 restricting the flow of fluid so that a variation in
6 the pressure will create a non-linear change in the
7 flowrate.

1 22. The method of claim 21, changing a direction of
2 the fluid flow.

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